

May 4, 1983

LB 617

SENATOR MARSH: It is not on the page that was announced. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: We will check it, Senator Marsh. 1924. Is it there? We are voting on the return of the bill for a specific amendment by Senator Schmit. Senator Schmit. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 4 nays, on a motion to return the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The bill is returned, Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, I thought I would save time by not explaining the amendment twice. I'm not going to try that any more, I'll tell you that. That is a little risky. This amendment, Mr. President and members of the Legislature, is designed because of the concern that many persons have about the funding of the increase in the judges salary. So this will provide for an increase in court fees. It will provide for an increase of three dollars per case on the municipal court, which will raise about \$200,000 in Omaha and \$100,000 in Lincoln. It will provide for an increase of five dollars per case in the district court and it will increase the fees about \$3.00, I believe it is, yes, a \$3.00 per case fee in county court. It will provide sufficient funds to fund the pay raise that has been proposed by the Senator Rod Johnson amendment. If there are any questions I'll be glad to try and answer them. There is one explanation that I should offer. The district court fees are deposited to the county. So there is a provision that provides for a transfer of those, of that extra five dollars, district court fees, from the county to the general fund. Mr. President, I move adoption of the amendment. I will answer any questions you have.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Von Minden and Senator Carsten.

SENATOR VON MINDEN: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I don't want to ask Senator Schmit any questions, I just want to say to you, do you want to raise taxes from the poor and the . . . poor people who get picked up now and then or who have court cases to give to already somebody who is making \$48,000? And to county judges who just got a \$6,000 raise in the beginning of January of this year? I don't think you want to do something like that.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Cal Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Schmit, is this. . . is...has somewhat of a relationship to a cash fund but it does go through the appropriations process, is that my understanding?